

# Routes to tour in Germany

## The German Wine Route

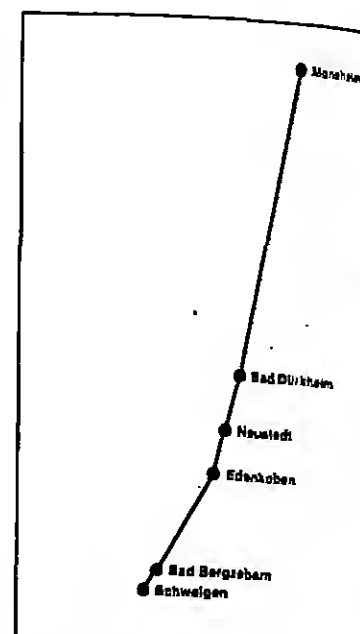


German roads will get you there — to the Palatinate woods, for instance, where 2,000 years ago Roman legionaries were already growing wine. Each vine yields up to three litres of various kinds of wine, such as Riesling, Sylvaner, Müller-Thurgau, Scheurebe or Gewürztraminer. Grapes are gathered in the autumn but the season never ends. Palatinate people are always ready to throw a party, and wine always holds pride of place, generating *Gemütlichkeit* and good cheer. As at the annual Bad Dürkheim Wurstmarkt, or sausage market, the Deidesheim goat auction and the election of the German Wine Queen in Neustadt. Stay the night in wine-growing villages, taste the wines and become a connoisseur.

Visit Germany and let the Wine Route be your guide.

- 1 Grapes on the vine
- 2 Dorrenbach
- 3 St Martin
- 4 Deidesheim
- 5 Wachenheim

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## Bonn President shows the flag in Middle East

**Nordwest-Zeitung**

Bonn President Richard von Weizsäcker's trip to the Middle East is only his second official visit since he took up office last autumn. He is going to both Jordan and Egypt. In the year, he is scheduled to go to Israel. Since the Federal Republic was established, governments in Bonn have made every effort to strike a balance in their relations with Israel and the Arab world. The shaping of Bonn's special relationship with Israel has been one of the difficult tasks during this period. To balance, Bonn's policies in the region have been successful and this trip by Weizsäcker is an expression of success. His first host, King Hussein of Jordan.

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has visited the Federal Republic of Germany several times. The relations between Bonn and Cairo are also developing satisfactorily. Richard von Weizsäcker is not traveling to the Middle East as a mediator or negotiator. His state visits to Jordan and Egypt are primarily intended as a sounding of the chances the European countries united in the EC might have in breaking the deadlock in the region for peace in this troubled region. Arab governments make no secret about the fact that they would like the Europeans help resolve

the problems in the eastern part of the Mediterranean than the nuclear superpowers.

The Mediterranean states France, Italy and Greece are thinking along these lines.

Bonn, however, which is not keen on overtly high-profile foreign policies, cannot go this far.

Of course, the discussions between Herr von Weizsäcker and King Hussein or President Husni Mubarak will centre on issues where mutual interests are involved: disarmament, development policies and the economic ties between the European Community and Arab countries.

As a representative of a country which in its own interests untiringly demands a people's right to self-determination Herr von Weizsäcker realises that he will not be able to by-pass the Palestinian problem.

This is not his intention. Right at the start of his journey, Richard von Weizsäcker said: "All countries have the right of self-determination. At the same time, however, all countries have the right to live within secure borders. Israel cannot be made an exception."

The new president of the Federal Republic is reputed to be an expert in broaching and discussing tricky problems with great diplomatic skill.

This ability will be of great advantage to him during his Middle East mission.

Franc Fegeler  
(Nordwest-Zeitung, Oldenburg, 4 February 1985)



Dead Sea meeting: from left, King Hussein, of Jordan, Frau Marianne von Weizsäcker, Queen Nur and Bonn President von Weizsäcker. (Photo: dpa)

## New pattern of terror emerges as industrialist is shot dead

Left-wing terrorist activity in Europe is being stepped up. The assassination of Ernst Zimmermann, 55, the head of West Germany's biggest military engine manufacturer, shot outside his house in Munich, follows the killing of René Audran, a French general, in a Paris suburb. The West German Red Army Faction claimed Zimmermann's death and both the RAF and the French Direct Action have jointly claimed Audran's killing. The two groups had previously announced joint plans to hit Nato targets in

Western Europe. Another hint that terrorism of the left is organising itself across borders was an attack against a West German air base in which a woman was injured. A Portuguese group called FP-25 claimed to have placed the bombs. Mr Zimmermann's firm, Motoren und Turbinen Union GmbH, makes engines for Nato's combat aircraft, the Tornado, and the West German battle tank, the Leopard II. General Audran was killed, said the terrorists, because his role was at the heart of Nato's function.

The murder of West German industrialist Ernst Zimmermann by two Red Army Faction (RAF) killers has destroyed hopes that international terrorism was on the wane.

Now bodyguard protection has been strengthened and precautionary measures stepped up to protect hundreds of politicians, members of the military and industrialists as well as their families.

The background to this new wave of terror is gradually becoming clear, the

Page 18: Terrorist prisoners and their hunger strike; man killed planting bomb.

"Western European guerilla" has reformed. The terrorist strategic plans discovered in Germany and elsewhere, already pointed towards some kind of underground resurgence.

Terrorists from the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Italy and Northern Ireland have joined forces.

Anti-terrorist experts fear that the united strength of terrorist organisations could dangerously increase their striking power.

Although the West German terrorist organisation has been dismantled, Continued on page 2



## Peres welcomes Brandt

Israel's Prime Minister, Shimon Peres (right) welcomes the chairman of the SPD, Willy Brandt, to Tel Aviv. Brandt also met the Foreign Minister, Yitzhak Shamir, and representatives of the Arab occupied territories. (Photo: dpa)



The whole world hailed the election of former opposition leader, Tancredo Neves, as president of Brazil as a further "victory for democracy" in Latin America.

The euphoria is understandable. Up until a few years ago most of Latin America was under military rule; now, most of the directors have ingloriously bowed out.

Leaving aside the countries of the Caribbean, the two "dinosaurs", General Alfredo Stroessner of Paraguay and General Augusto Pinochet of Chile, are the only military rulers still clinging to power.

However, it is too early for prophecies of an unstoppable process of democratisation.

A better word for what is happening in the southern part of the western hemisphere is "civilisation".

The preconditions for a sustained democratic development have yet to be created. For it was economic incompetence rather than the terrible violations of human rights which carried the indignation of the masses too far and forced the military commanders to declare their political bankruptcy.

The military are not about to capitulate. This is reflected in the fact that the election in Uruguay and the "designation" of the new president in Brazil by a carefully picked electoral college (in an effort to prevent any direct election which might have brought a more radical candidate to power) had the character of formalities bearing the unmistakable mark of the military.

How can the rule of law be re-established if, both in Uruguay and Brazil, the supposed advocates thereof have no qualms in accepting a hand-over of power from the perpetrators of abominable crimes against it?

What is more, the terms of the takeover have been clearly laid down: those guilty of the crimes are to be spared and the dominant position of the military guaranteed.

This is an inexcusable act.

The only man to realise that such a transition to "business as usual" encumbers the setting up of constitutional order right from the start is Argentina's president, Raúl Alfonsín.

Continued from page 1

Organisation RAF is much weaker than it was in 1977, criminal investigation authorities in Western European capitals regard the formation of international bomb-attack, killer and kidnapping gangs as a serious risk.

The previous generation of RAF terrorists collaborated closely with supporters in the Middle East, Palestinians and the radical states in that region.

Today's RAF, on the other hand, is embedded in a "united Europe of terror".

The new terrorist group has seized millions of marks during various armed hold-ups and has an arsenal of weapons which allows it to carry out individual terrorist murders.

The West German Ministry of the Interior believes that in view of the stepped-up protection of top politicians, officials and industrialists terrorist attacks are more likely to be levelled against a list of second-rank VIPs.

Because of the vast number of potential murder victims at this level full protection cannot of course be guaranteed.

Ernst Zimmermann was on this list. The RAF and the French left-wing terrorist organisation, Direct Action, have established close links and have synchronised their attacks.

These two groups are regarded as the backbone of Euro-terrorist attacks.

Hans Wullenweber  
(Kiehl Nachrichten, 4 February 1985)

## WORLD AFFAIRS

# South America's democratic trend continues in Brazil

NÜRNBERGER  
Nachrichten

He took the appropriate steps: he ordered an investigation into the excesses of the security apparatus, demanded that the shocking details of the bestiality of the torturers be made known to the public and, despite strong opposition, tracked down those responsible.

Unfortunately, this remains a unique example of a genuine desire for a real fresh start.

The epoch of repression cannot be shrugged off like a bad dream.

Anyone who tries to do so is shying away from the real roots of the evil, almost supporting the fascist "doctrine of national security".

As in Peru, for example, where the ruling liberal politician, Beaudet Terry, has long since lost control over the situation, unable to prevent his troops from causing havoc at will throughout the land.

As a result thousands of innocent people have disappeared and a situation has arisen in which the government has no control over the action of the country's guerrillas.

In Bolivia the socialist Siles Zuazo is losing ground fast in his struggle against

left-wing dogmatists, right-wing reactionaries and coup-hungry colonels.

In Colombia there are areas which Nobel prize winner, García Márquez, calls "our Salvador", where big landowners, soldiers and death squadrons still practice the law of the jungle.

The impressive efforts in distant Bogotá by the conservative politician, Belisario Betsuor, to reconcile his country's political forces have no influence on this situation.

Democracy in South America? This is not a question which can be answered by the power and propertied elites in the metropolises anyway.

Parliamentarism, separation of powers, capitalism, communism — to the families of the dying children in the drought regions of North east Brazil, to the starving in the slums or to the farming labourers and tenant farmers these must seem like expressions from some alien planet.

Influential circles inside the Latin American Church have realised that radical social changes are needed to bring about justice.

Many will feel that the formation of hundreds of thousands of "grassroots communities" pursuing the long-term goal of a "comprehensive liberation of man" is an act of illusory idealism.

However, this movement is increasing the awareness of oppression, stimulating self-help and "bottom-up" solidarity.

## The Pope and the world's poor people

He preached the rules of marriage to a society in which most of the children are born outside of the family unit where dire need and desperation often prevent couples from marrying.

Never before has the head of the church urged his listeners so insistently to be "responsible fathers and mothers" and to carefully choose how many children they have and how often so as to ensure that they need not live in deprivation.

A change in the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church?

The Pope made it unmistakably clear that he still abides by the encyclical *Humanae vitae* issued by Pope Paul VI, which stipulates that "each marital act of procreation" should not be interfered with in any way.

According to the Pope, therefore, responsible fathers and mothers should not use any form of artificial contraception, let alone think of abortion, during the final years of the 20th century, since "all these methods not approved of by the church are strictly forbidden".

When Pope John Paul II ascended the "Holy See" more than six years ago many believers and non-believers hoped that this man would drag his church out of the thousand-year-old mildew of Italian-style traditionalism and into a world which had long since moved away from the centralist authority of Rome.

Karol Wojtyła's unconventional vitality and dislike of ceremonial appeared

Perhaps this will somehow lead to active reshaping of society through social "restructuring programmes".

In many respects an association of Reformers comes to mind; at the Vatican appears to have thought it possible.

Plenty of parallels could be drawn between the impoverished conditions in Latin America today and the conditions which led to the outbreak of the Wars in Germany five hundred years ago.

In view of the crushing weight of legacy President Tancredo Neves accepted from his predecessor he certainly not be thinking in terms of longer-term objectives.

Since 1964 Brazil's external debt has soared from \$3.1 billion to the enormous figure of \$100 billion.

This, together with the 22% inflation rate and the growing interest rates, has paralysed the country's economy.

It has become all too obvious that large-scale industrial growth (and on credit to boot) has nothing to do with a broadly-based development policy in favour of the majority of the population.

During the past 20 years, according to the figure in the Flick investigation political opposition was merely crushed in order to save the existing garchical system.

The middle classes, which have backed this development, are now impoverished.

Two-thirds of the population of the world's eight largest industrial countries suffer from malnutrition.

The demands made before the end of years of military rule are relevant now as they were in 1964.

Christian S. K...  
(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 28 January 1985)

to justify expectations. Without a monarchic speeches the Pope looked more like a countryman than the King of all priests, the successor of St. Peter or the Vicar of Christ.

Although this Pope has changed his style once and for all he has the same pillars to support the structure of the church, threatened as it was by collapse.

As if splitting worldly evolutionism, the Pope has tried to strengthen his position as the centre of the church in new Rome, but the old conservative headquarter in which the voice of the people elsewhere in the world is heard in the form of live TV broadcasts.

Pope John Paul II would like to see developing solutions to the state of affairs which they complained about.

Behind, they lost even more credibility by hiding behind "opposition as a Council".

It is unlikely that the spirit of the times will re-emerge.

This Pope has managed to bring everything that has tried to push it forward during the eighties to a still.

Horst Sch...  
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 29 January 1985)

## The German Tribune

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## HOME AFFAIRS

# Greens still a party in search of a foreign policy

Süddeutsche Zeitung

When he was asked what the Greens' foreign policy was, Bundestag MP Joschka Fischer evaded the question with a sigh and said this was the time for such a question.

The fourth party in the Bundestag is plenty to say on environmental protection; on foreigners living in this country; and on defence and peace. It is a long way away from forming a foreign policy platform.

There has been no statement on foreign policy. No espousal of international human rights. No involvement in development aid policies or the extension of the peace movement as a starting point for an alternative foreign policy.

Those in the parliamentary party who have given any thought to it say that their policy would have to be "for dialogue and pacifism".

But how would it be operated? With whom would the Greens talk? Peace movements and ecology groups all over the world — as well as representatives of sovereign states, officials, politicians? And how do the Greens feel about secret diplomacy?

The Greens are galled that they were not the first to call an international environmental protection conference.

This was done by Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann of all people.

Petra Kelly has stood god-parent to peace movements in Australia and New Zealand, and has often attracted

the Free Democrats have issued a report heavily criticising the...  
Land elections are being...  
and slave off the church of the...  
which is posing a severe threat...  
FDP.

FDP business manager Holmut...  
said when he issued the...  
study that the Greens...  
not prepared to accept total gov-...  
ment responsibility.

They were incapable of constructive...  
bargaining because, as a res-...  
counts in the form of live TV...  
developing solutions to the state of...  
affairs which they complained about.

Behind, they lost even more credibil-...  
ity by hiding behind "opposition as a...  
Council".

It is unlikely that the spirit of the...  
times will re-emerge.

This Pope has managed to bring...  
everything that has tried to push it...  
forward during the eighties to a...  
still.

Horst Sch...  
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 29 January 1985)

The Greens, says the report, except...  
politics before anyone was really...  
there they were there so there has...  
no chance to have a "systematic...  
exchange of opinion" with them.

Hausmann exhorts the Liberals to...  
the new party earnestly, not only...  
for own interests but also for parli-...  
mentary democracy in West Ger-...  
many.

It was time to explain and provide...  
information to the voters, "particularly...  
young voters." This should not be done...  
in a general way but "showing basic...  
principles and with hard facts."

Hausmann referred to the Greens'...  
understanding of the democratic pro-...  
cess as expressed in concrete terms in...  
conference decisions on import-

not in evidence. When Schily travels to Moscow he conducts himself like an experienced diplomat. When Petra Kelly appears on the Red Square she is successful in getting media attention when pictures appear of a "spontaneous" demonstration with posters being unrolled, for example.

It would be interesting to hear Otto Schily and Petra Kelly discussing Greens' foreign policies in public.

Those in the parliamentary party who have given any thought to it say that their policy would have to be "for dialogue and pacifism".

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This was done by Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann of all people.

Petra Kelly has stood god-parent to peace movements in Australia and New Zealand, and has often attracted

personal continuity which meetings at all levels have had to struggle with. Attitudes towards foreign affairs will, presumably, rotate with the rotation of Bundestag members.

Plans for an alternative foreign policy in the parliamentary party are being worked out by an international "greens network" together with all disarmament and ecology groups.

Rather than involuntarily follow in the footsteps of the Friedrich Ebert or the Konrad Adenauer foundations, they will bear most of the financial burden themselves, since the Greens in West Germany are rich.

Top of the list of foreign policy interests is the establishment of a Greens contact bureau in Washington, for, as Heinz Stühr has remarked, policies made in the USA have considerable influence in many areas on the Federal Republic.

Uncertainty over foreign policy connections are reflected in defence policy. The fourth party in the Bundestag demands unilateral disarmament and a new international economic order, all at once, even when only an attitude is called for to the renewal of arms control negotiations in Geneva.

When the parliamentary party discusses the mistakes made in the trip to the Middle East, it will not come round to the view that despite considerable individual effort, foreign policy is a Greens' blind spot.

But a party that does not have a clearly defined foreign policy, particularly a defence policy, is not in a position to join a coalition or govern at federal level.

Udo Bergdoll  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 30 January 1985)

and the collapse of the economic system.

The Greens favoured abandoning international involvement and pulling out of world markets, although almost every third job in the country depended on exports.

• Finance and social affairs policies  
The demand to increase taxes at the top of the scale would eventually reduce services, the readiness to take risks and reduce private investment. Similarly the Greens had the impossible idea that people should work less but draw larger pensions.

• Environmental and energy policies  
In the matter of exhaust gas limits the Greens would put aside the EC decisions "with a shrug of the shoulders" without taking into consideration the consequences for West German car exports.

Their demand for the instant closing down of all nuclear power stations would cut off energy supplies and bring most industrial production to a standstill. They were also against vital increases in the use of fossil fuels because of environmental pollution.

• Foreign, intra-German and security policies  
The FDP report finds that the Greens fundamentally oppose security policies and would solve the problem by simply abandoning security.

They favoured withdrawal from NATO and were against alliance with the USA. They were emphatically against German reunification.

Is the party, now five years old (still) prepared to learn anything? Bundestag member Jürgen Reenta answered this question: "Our basic views are not open to change simply because more information is provided or impressions created."

Stefan Heydeck  
(Die Welt, Bonn, 25 January 1985)

Rejection of the industrial society and introducing a social market economy via a system of councils would bring about the expropriation and abolition of private ownership in a major way

political argument.

political argument.

political argument.

political argument.



## ■ THE SILESIAN CONTROVERSY

Rally slogan, newspaper story  
revive an old issue

The demands of refugees from the former German territories in Eastern Europe have long been a complicating factor in the Bonn government's policies towards the East Bloc. One of these refugee groups is the Silesian League. It is estimated that of about 13 million Germans driven from Eastern Europe after the war, about two million were from Silesia, now part of Poland. Now the League has really thrown the cat among the pigeons with its latest efforts. First was a raw over what motto should be used for the League rally in June. The first suggestion was "Forty years of banishment — Silesia remains ours." This produced howls of protest and reportedly angered Chancellor Kohl, who was due to speak to the League. Now the motto is "Forty years of banishment — Silesia remains ours." The next League slogan was a fictional article in *Der Schlesier*, the group's official newspaper, which describes how the West German army moves unopposed through the former eastern territories to reunite the pre-1939 Germany. Then, to add to the fire, the leader of the League, Herbert Hupka, who is also a CDU Member of Parliament in Bonn, said in an open letter that Silesia was not just the home of the Silesians "but the property of all Germans." This sort of refugee group activity gets electric reactions from people such as the Poles because of fears of German revanchism, the wish to return to old borders. The former Bonn position is that there is no intention of trying to return to those borders. In 1970, Bonn signed a treaty with Poland in which it recognised the western Polish border with East Germany as running principally along the Oder and Neisse rivers. This means that Bonn recognises that Silesia is Polish. Hence the almost apoplectic official reaction to the League's activities.

Chancellor Kohl was already angry over the Silesian League motto controversy.

The stalling tactics employed by his CDU party colleague and head of the League, Herbert Hupka, were also pretty hard to swallow.

But the article and commentary published in the latest edition of the weekly magazine *Der Schlesier* (The Silesian), which according to its imprint is the "official organ of the Association of Refugees and Expellees from Silesia, Lower and Upper Silesia", really went too far.

Chancellor Kohl's immediate reaction was to ask Eduard Ackermann, permanent secretary in the Federal Chancellery, to get in touch with Hupka.

However, Hupka's reply was not a clear disavowal from the content of the controversial article.

He merely informed Ackermann that the article did not represent the opinion of the magazine editors.

The organisation's "official organ", he said, means that the League's internal announcements can be published in the paper.

In the eyes of the Federal Chancellery this was not exactly the most appropriate of reactions to the outrageousness of the published article.

It is still not clear how such an article managed to find way into the magazine.

STUTTGARTER  
NACHRICHTEN

The publisher and editor-in-chief of *Der Schlesier*, Hans-Joachim Illner, could not be reached.

In a second statement in which he clearly dissociated himself from the content of the article Hupka emphasised that the magazine is run independently.

He then announced that he would be discussing the matter with the editor-in-chief.

This delayed reaction, however, was too late: Bonn was already "seething".

The Minister for Intra-German Affairs, Heinrich Windelen, called the magazine a "rabble-rouser" and was prompt to react: he froze the Ministry's annual DM15,000 grant to the magazine.

The parliamentary leader of the SPD, Hans-Joachim Vogel, called upon Chancellor Kohl to settle the matter once and for all and refuse to address the Silesian rally.

The statement issued by Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, probably pointed in the same direction: "Following the unreasonable demands made of the Chancellor during recent weeks the situation has now become intolerable."

Although he was inwardly "foaming with rage", Chancellor Kohl did not want to go that far.

## The league

The *Landmannschaft Schlesien, Nieder- und Oberschlesien e.V.* (Silesian League) was founded on 28 March 1950 in Bonn.

It regards itself as "the representative body of Silesia, the Silesia and their friends."

The organisation is split up into more than 1,000 regional and local groups and claims to have 300,000 members (17,000 in Bavaria).

Since 1968, the chairman of the League, which has its seat in Haus Schlesien in Königswinter near Bonn, is the CDU member of the Bundestag, Herbert Hupka, who himself was born in Ceylon in 1915.

The Silesian League acknowledges the Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany and supports the right of self-determination "for all Germans and thus also East Germans".

Hupka, who is also vice-president of the Association of Expellees, left the SPD in 1972 in protest against the treaties drawn up with Eastern bloc countries.

The two foundations, *Stiftung Kulturwerk Schlesien* in Würzburg and *Stiftung Schlesien* in Hanover, try to maintain customs and traditions as well as cultural heritage.

The League's youth organisation is called *Schlesische Jugend* and is led by Hartmut Koschyk.

Alongside 60 other regular publications, the official organ of the organisation is the weekly magazine *Der Schlesier* (The Silesian), published in Recklinghausen.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 28 January 1985)

He is convinced that the overwhelming majority of the Silesians wants the rally to be nothing more than a meeting between friends.

Nonetheless, it looks as if he will have a few words to say to the leaders of the Silesian League in Hanover because of the way they have treated him over recent months. Last summer they invited him to address their rally without informing him of the rally's motto.

In fact, it wasn't even decided upon until autumn: "Forty years banishment — Silesia remains ours".

After the Chancellor found out about the motto in the papers in December he told the League that he could not come to the rally unless the motto was reworded.

The League's committee, however, took its time to react.

The Chancellor for his part did not press for an answer.

In January there was a meeting between Hupka and the Minister in charge of the Chancellor's office, Wolfgang Schäuble.

Hupka promised to discuss the Chancellor's proposals with his organisation's committee, which then convened on 20 January in Königswinter.

Those who now thought that the matter had been clarified were in for a disappointment.

After a half-hour talk between Kohl and Hupka on 21 January there was still no acceptable motto.

The next day the committee announced its revised motto: "Forty years banishment — Silesia remains our future in a Europe of free people".

Kohl accepted the new motto and hoped that this would put an end to the matter. The magazine article has caused a new stir, and the obstinacy of the leaders of the Silesian League so far would suggest that the issue is by no means settled.

Hans-Peter Finkle  
(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 26 January 1985)

## Background

The Silesian League, which claims to have 300,000 members, has done no disservice to the Federal Republic.

The organisation's motto "Silesia remains ours" was the first political mistake.

The commotion this caused was worsened by the article published in the association's magazine *Der Schlesier* describing a fictional invasion by the Bundeswehr of the areas beyond the Oder and Neisse Rivers.

During the entire discussion of these problems the League has behaved as if it were speaking on behalf of the 3.1 million Silesians and their descendants, indeed on behalf of all Germans.

As the chairman of the League, Herbert Hupka, a CDU MP, put it: "Silesia is not just the home of Silesians, but the property of all Germans".

A brief description of Silesia's historical background may help.

During the Migration Period Silesia was inhabited alternately by Germans and Slavs.

Following the departure of the Silingen Vandals, who had settled near the Zobtenberg and along the Oder River until the 4th century, the region is thought to have remained virtually uninhabited until the 6th century.

The region was then sparsely populated by the Slavs.

The 11th century saw the beginning of the rule of the Polish Piasts in Silesia.

Their disputes over succession, in which the German Emperor Frederick Barbarossa was also involved, led to the

Continued on page 6



Herbert Hupka ... a delayed reaction

A 20-year-old  
at centre  
of the storm

A 20-year-old from the Harz region, Thomas Finkle, is at the centre of the Silesian controversy. On an article referred to by the head of the Silesian League, Herbert Hupka, as "insane and atrocious", Finkle scribes a fictional sweep by the German army through Eastern Europe to reunify Germany. "There is no war", he writes in his article called "Reflections on Germany" published in the magazine *Der Schlesier* (The Silesian). Why marching through other countries did not deserve to be called a war, Finkle replied: "I have no comment on this point." His article, however, has not helped him out of his predicament: on the evening following publication, the regional group of the CDU has expelled him from the party.

The situation is absurd. A case of adolescent pipedreaming has interrupted the business of serious politics. A twenty-year-old puts his own thoughts to paper, a refugee magazine publishes his jumbled nonsense at the right time, and Bonn finds itself in a state of turmoil. Where are the politicians who can distinguish between important and the unimportant?

Admittedly, the content of the article was pretty nasty, and the question must be asked how somebody could come up with this kind of fatuous twaddle.

The expulsion of the author from the CDU and the Silesian youth organisation was the right thing to do. Any other decision might have been misconstrued as tacit approval of the product of a muddled imagination.

However, the fact that an important political personality announced a new and discordant Ostpolitik in a party organisation magazine does not warrant such a storm of indignation.

It almost looks as if politicians particularly enjoy thumping the weak.

For where was the indignation and the criticism when two of the politicians representing refugees and expellees, Herbert Hupka and Herbert C.

were criticising Bonn's foreign policy?

Why does the author of the article get the thrashing and not those who enabled its publication in the first place?

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 January 1985)

## FLASHBACK

Former Auschwitz prisoner asks why  
plea for bombing raid was ignored

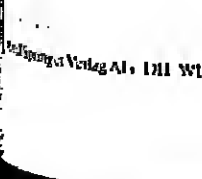
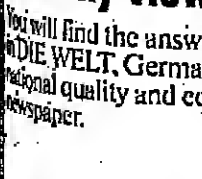
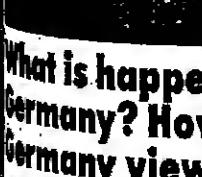
17 January 1945 Russian troops liberated Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland. Hermann Langbein, who wrote the article for *Deutsches Allgemeines*, was a political prisoner in Auschwitz between 1942 and 1944. He is a founder member of the camp resistance group mentioned. He is also the author of a series of books dealing with this period.

18 January 1945 the commandant of Auschwitz concentration camp ordered to evacuate in the face of approaching Russian troops. Those left behind in the camp, prisoners unable to march and the sick, were killed on 27 January.

The concentration camp at Auschwitz was initially just one of the many camps set up by the Nazi regime to disseminate terror.

After Hitler announced the "final solution to the Jewish question" and the centre of the extermination camps in East on article referred to by the head of the Silesian League, Herbert Hupka, as "insane and atrocious", Finkle scribes a fictional sweep by the German army through Eastern Europe to reunify Germany. "There is no war", he writes in his article called "Reflections on Germany" published in the magazine *Der Schlesier* (The Silesian). Why marching through other countries did not deserve to be called a war, Finkle replied: "I have no comment on this point." His article, however, has not helped him out of his predicament: on the evening following publication, the regional group of the CDU has expelled him from the party.

The effect of Zyklon B gas (cyanide poison) had been tested on Russian prisoners-of-war and sick prisoners. The Birkenau camp complex was set up



with four large-scale crematories. The machinery of death began in spring 1942.

In accordance with a centrally drawn up plan and with organisational perfection the Reich's security headquarters transported Jews from all countries under Hitler's control to Auschwitz.

Here they were subjected to a "selection" procedure: those classed as fit for work were sent as prisoners for "extermination via work" (an expression used during a meeting between Himmler and the Minister of Justice Thierack); the others were escorted to the gas chambers.

Selection and gassing were practised for two-and-a-half years at the Auschwitz camp, which thus became the largest concentration and extermination camp.

In February 1943 gypsies were also classed as "not worthy of life" and suffered the same fate as the Jews.

Auschwitz became the most drastic example of the power ideology can wield, of how a radical theory can divide mankind into members of a master race and subhumans, creating a class of people denied the very right to live and compared only with insects.

The members of the SS responsible for pouring the poison gas into the gas chambers were officially called "disinfectors".

This is perhaps one reason why the subject of Auschwitz was carefully ignored for many years after the Nazi regime had been defeated.

Many of those who had accepted this

theory were not willing to accept the horrifying truths of its implementation.

The topic was only officially broached after post-war generations were no longer willing to by-pass the problem.

And ever since, those who would like to acquit the Nazi regime of the historical guilt which clearly distinguishes it from all other fascist and totalitarian systems (in no other system have millions of people been murdered purely on account of their descent) have been questioning the existence of gas chambers in Auschwitz.

Such doubts, however, are futile in view of the overwhelming evidence.

The National Socialists had greater inhibitions when it came to destroying records than with regard to exterminating human beings.

There is therefore plenty of exact documentation of the crimes committed in Auschwitz and in other concentration camps.

The perpetrators and the organisation behind them are named.

Records give an exact account of the extent of the mass murders.

However, few people are aware of the fact that there was an active resistance group among the prisoners in Auschwitz, that human feelings and solidarity survived even in the dark shadow of the crematories and gas chambers.

Furthermore, its fight against the systematic murdering of the Nazi regime was rewarded by a number of successes.

The Nazi concentration camp system, which was developed in the first concentration camp in Dachau and then applied in all the others, set out to rob the prisoners of their sense of personal worth, to break their will power and turn them into tools ready to obey any command.

If an SS man felt like hitting a prisoner, the latter was not even allowed to raise his hand to protect his face; this was regarded as opposition and cruelly punished.

Malnutrition and hard physical labour meant that all many prisoners could think about was to find something to eat and avoid being physically mistreated.

The aim of the Nazis was to eliminate any idea of resistance right from the start. Living conditions in Auschwitz were even worse, since the camp was overshadowed by the crematories.

Again and again prisoners no longer able to work were filtered out and sent to die in the gas chambers.

The fact that a resistance group was formed even in this camp and was able to claim a certain degree of success is astounding and highly commendable.

For it shows that even in extreme situations human feelings cannot be eradicated altogether.

What is more, the group was able to overcome the conflicts between different nationalities, which were deliberately stirred up by the camp supervisors.

The group of leaders in the "combat group Auschwitz", as the resistance group called itself, was made up of different nationalities.

The group was also able to successfully fight against antisemitic tendencies among inmates.

These tendencies were also fanned by the Nazis and were particularly strong

## SONNTAGSBLATT

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among the Poles, often at the expense of their fellow Jewish prisoners.

However, it should also be emphasised that Poles were very active within the combat group.

Resistance activities in the camp were primarily aimed at saving lives.

Of course, the scope for such activities was extremely limited.

It was not easy to avoid being demoralised and to accept the huge risks involved in saving perhaps just a few lives.

However, small successes gave us our strength. It is obvious that those prisoners living in slightly better conditions had the best opportunities of helping their friends, fellow countrymen or comrades or of fighting against the murderous system of the SS.

The camp authorities had deliberately established a hierarchy inside the camp which corresponded to their own racialist way of thinking.

The German prisoners were at the top of the ladder and the Jews at the very bottom. The SS passed on the basic forms of its leadership principles to the prisoners: each work commando was led by an overseer, each dwelling unit had a block elder (block was the smallest organisational unit of the Nazi party based on a block of houses).

These leaders had to obey the orders given by the SS.

How these leaders managed to fulfil the stipulated workload and keep order in their blocks was up to them.

They were given unlimited powers with regard to their own groups.

They were often rewarded if they used physical force to do the job.

If a prisoner died after a beating, the camp authorities turned a blind eye, interested only in a proper report of the death to ensure roll call accuracy.

Prisoners with this kind of leadership responsibility enjoyed special privileges.

As a rule, Germans — and thus Austrians too, who were treated as Germans in the camp — were given these jobs.

If these "prisoner officials" refused to be corrupted, they often found themselves facing the dilemma of either becoming the extended arm of the camp authorities or running the risk of using their privileges on behalf of their fellow prisoners.

If they opted for the latter this was not just for reasons of sympathy for their fellow human beings, but in order to retain their self-respect.

There is no need to explain why there were more acts of resistance during the final months of the concentration camp's existence than during the years in which Hitler's "thousand-year empire" still stood firm.

One of the Auschwitz combat group's major objectives was to inform the rest of the world of the cold-blooded mass murders committed each day in the camp.

Although the existence of the gas chambers were veiled in secrecy, atrocities of this magnitude could not go unnoticed for long.

Too many official departments and military sections were involved: five ministries co-ordinated the organisation of the mass murders; the state railway changed its timetables to transport the prisoners; the gold filling taken from the prisoners' corpses was delivered to the Reichsbank month after month.

Apart from this, the stench of burnt human flesh could often be smelt miles away.

The families of senior members of the SS lived in the vicinity of the camps.

Finally, more and more people came into contact with prisoners during the course of the war. A growing number of

Continued on page 14



One south German newspaper recently reported in an item a mere 15 lines long that the unemployed figure in West Germany had hit 2.3 million.

The report was squashed between two articles carrying large headlines: a winter weather report and an item about a protest against stationing missiles.

This reflects the interest editors believe that can reckon with among their readers. They must have calculated accurately, although unemployment brings with it more hardship than frozen roads and includes more explosive material than some Pershing missiles.

The most terrible aspect of mass unemployment is not of the same order, but it is a fact that the public at large and the political leadership in our country are getting more and more used to unemployment and giving the problem less and less consideration.

They are not thinking how it can be controlled and how its social dangers can be eliminated.

An unheard time-bomb is ticking away whose explosive power could

## ■ THE WORKFORCE

### Long-term unemployment: path towards social disaster

cause the edifice of our social welfare state based on Basic Law to collapse.

The indifference of many politicians and public figures to mass unemployment as a permanent feature of society is incomprehensible.

They betray a sense of concern for a large threatened sector of our society and show a lack of social solidarity. They also display a lack of political discernment. It is foolishness.

This is all the more incomprehensible since not a few people have for years known what would happen. And they have given warnings. They said that unemployment was not a feature of the trade cycle but was based on structural changes in our working world.

## NÜRNBERGER Nachrichten

The economic upturn we are experiencing is a far cry from what many politicians and leaders of trade and industry expected.

It has, however, meant increased orders for many industries. But it has had practically no effect on unemployment. In certain areas it has got worse.

It is true that the welfare state is nowhere near as strong then as it was at the end of the SPD/FDP government in 1982, but the upheavals since are some extent due to this. It seems that the situation is going to get worse.

There comes a point when every employed person loses hope. Such have already reached this point, others are not far distant.

This will come all the more when it becomes clear that the politicians do not have a long-term answer, but are muddling through in the hope that an upswing will improve the employment situation in waiting just round the corner.

When the unemployed begin to realise that the politicians have no answer, the situation will set in.

Then it will be too late to avoid a two-tier society.

The bomb ticks away. It cannot be disposed of by rhetoric or short-term creation programmes, but only by a long term change in our world, a plan revolutionary in its effects.

The discussion should and must, without change. The recognition of change for change must be there with the energies to bring this change about.

At Neu-Perlach, a Munich suburb where more than 100,000 people live in the electronic society has been

(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 26 January 1985)

## Continued from page 4

creation of Silesian dukedom in 1163, for example, Breslau and Oppeln.

These Pias duked allowed landless farmers and craftsmen from the areas of the Holy Roman Empire to populate this region.

During the centuries which followed, therefore, the Silesian ethnic group became a mixture of Polish Slavs, Thuringians, Franks, Hessians, Palatines, Alemannics, Tirolians, Swiss and Flemings.

Up until the 14th century the Polish kings laid claim to Silesia.

Silesia was then a Bohemian and (from 1526 onwards) a Hapsburg fiefdom.

However, as some of the Pias duked had bequeathed their territories to the Elector of Brandenburg in the eventuality of their lineage dying out (like Prussia Silesia was reformed) the Prussian king, Frederick the Great, marched into Silesia in 1740 to assert his territorial claims against the Hapsburg Empress, Maria Theresa.

Prussia emerged as the victor from these three "Silesian Wars" (1740-42, 1744-45, 1756-63) and advanced to become Austria's major rival power in Europe.

Rudolf Bauer  
(Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 14 January 1985)

ters, who lead a lavish existence, irritation indeed, but this is not more than something taking place at the edges of society. This is easy-going money.

What is much more of a concern is the diagnosis of a dangerous illness in our society when we have to put with the fact that, in the long term, some people have work and some not.

The first have a secure livelihood thanks to their work, while the others have few worldly goods and are sliding down the social scale.

The indifference of politicians makes one think that their memories are short. International economic crises in the 1930s brought unemployment and with it, massive political radicalisation. Without millions jobless Hitler would never have come to power.

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At about the same time the Polish kingdom collapsed under its weak nobility and was annexed by neighbouring states.

During the so-called Polish division (between 1772 and 1795) Russia annexed about two-thirds of Polish territory, whereas Prussia and Austria acquired a sixth.

The Polish state re-emerged following the First World War after Russia and the Central European powers had been defeated.

After the Second World War the Polish borders were again realigned following westward territorial expansion by the Soviet Union.

To compensate for the 179,700 sq km of Poland lost in the East, 102,800 sq km of East German territory was handed over to the Polish administration.

This area included Silesia, Pomerania and the south-western part of Prussia.

This move triggered a human tragedy. The border realignment meant that more and more technicians and managers were being attracted, including technology freaks, speculators and people with utopian ideas.

A Frankfurt industrial consultant says: "The progressive sector of West German industry is finding its way more and more frequently to the south."

Hilmut Böttgermann, personnel director of Siemens' communications technology division said that there were not enough people with the appropriate qualifications either in the universities

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 31 January 1985)

## INDUSTRY

### Bavaria flashes to front on a silicon chip

## Neue Presse

Bavaria is rapidly overtaking Hamburg and West Berlin as the high technology centre of West Germany.

Many electronics firms have moved in or set up there that one job in this industry nation-wide in Bavaria.

In Munich alone, 50,000 of the workforce of 170,000 is in electronics in the city.

The development of Bavaria from an agricultural to an industrial region and the specialising in high technology is connected with a German attempt to compete with the Japanese and the Americans technologically.

Munich has opened a technology centre where young entrepreneurs can set up business with low rents and servicing when it becomes clear that the politicians do not have a long-term answer, but are muddling through in the hope that an upswing will improve the employment situation in waiting just round the corner.

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The computer of the 1990s, much faster, smaller and faster, is being developed here.

This all stems from the Megabit task and to be mass produced at a factory in Regensburg from 1987.

Opposite Siemens' research centre is a technology centre. From May, producers, distributors and operators of the "High Technology Target Group" will be able to compete with the Japanese and Americans in this sector in a complex made up of eight buildings covering 30,000 sq metres.

Quietly, this area around the Bavarian capital has been developed into a centre of micro-chips.

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(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 31 January 1985)

Last year the company's research and technology centre in Munich took on 320 qualified trainees (starting salary: DM3,500 a month).

Another 2,800 engineers should be taken on this year.

This financial year, more than DM4 billion will be spent on research and development.

Siemens research boss Karl Heinz Beckurts said that in many sectors the firm is at the top. There was a boom. Evidence of that was the 400 development operations under way.

Other giants in the electro- and electronic industries have also moved to Bavaria, Hitachi, Digital, Sanyo, Murata, Texas Instruments and Fairchild, for example. German computer manufacturer Nixdorf will be open up in Bavaria this year.

Bavaria's nimble-minded economic affairs minister Anton Jaumann said: "The fact that Munich is a long way away from any seaport has had its effect."

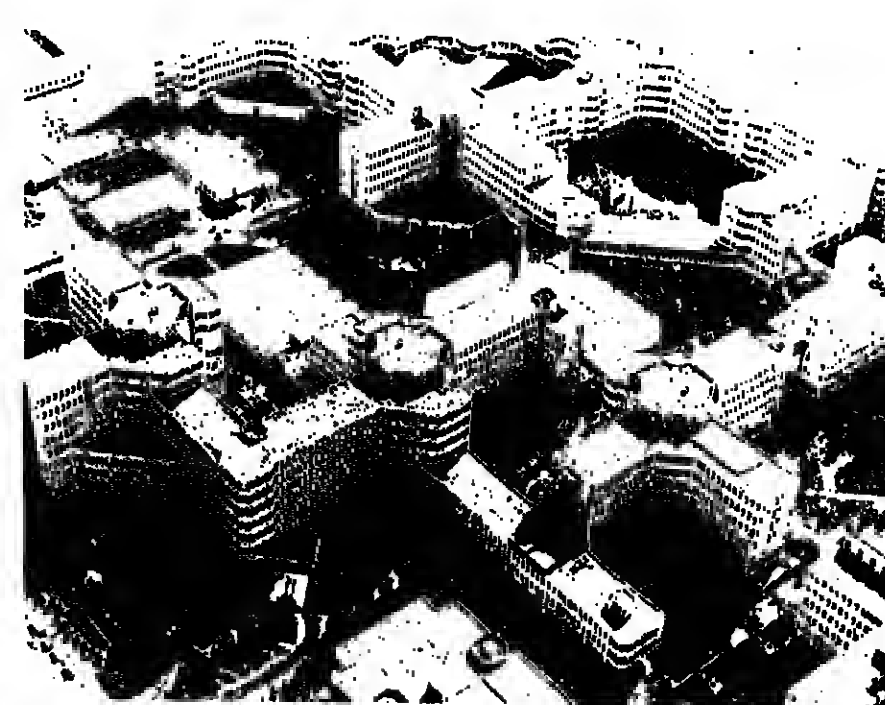
He pointed out that Bavaria and Munich, once heavily committed to agriculture, are rapidly becoming industrialised.

Munich was overtaking Hamburg and West Berlin as an industrialised city. In Munich there were 170,000 working people of whom 50,000 were in electronics.

In the past few years in Bavaria alone 10,000 additional jobs have been created in the micro-electronics industry.

There are 230,000 people working in the electro industries in Bavaria, top of the list, with 110,000 in the communications sector alone.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 31 January 1985)



The Siemens complex in Munich, interlocked and sprawling.  
(Photo: Siemens. Aerial photo released by Upper Bavarian government permit No. GS 300/9572/83)

A further 20,000 jobs will be added this century.

Munich has allocated DM42 million up until 1988 to promote research into micro-electronics.

Minister Jaumann arranged a study to advise on control and promotion. One finding was that a leading European electronics company proposed investing a huge amount in high technology production plant in Bavaria in a bid to meet the challenge of Japan and America in this decade.

Munich is not only suited to the giants in the industry but also the small firms.

Progress in the world of micro-chips is fairly dependent on small, courageous manufacturers, researchers and businessmen, as in America's Silicon Valley.

For this reason Munich municipality has developed a "Technology Centre" along with the Chamber for Industry and Trade, a 3,000 square metre area

Karl Stankiewicz  
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 24 January 1985)

### Ideas for the Ruhr 20 years too late

What should be "institutionalised" it is hard to see.

Electronics and bio-technology should be smartening up the Ruhr's "technological way" — as it has been exaggeratedly named — between Duisburg and Dortmund. This should be West Germany's "high technology valley".

Not only are the blast furnaces and plants there, but for many years important companies in engineering, chemicals and energy have been established there.

They can deploy electronics and robotics and have no need to be shy of international competition.

High technology is not a foreign word there. The pre-conditions for high technology production are promising. "High Tech" are magic words that trip lightly off the tongue and any number of documents drawn up by the chambers are devoted to it.

The main concern, however, is with venture capital from banks and insurance companies, to make things easier when setting up a firm. This applies also to the "two or three" industrial areas that should be models of what is wanted.

The youngest child of technology would be welcomed with open arms in

the Ruhr. It is a pity that the chambers were not more active in this matter 20 years ago. In the meantime many others have got to the starting post in other regions. Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg can offer attractive jobs.

The Dortmund meeting called for more land to be allocated for industrial development by the government. And it would be a pleasure to see representatives of the state involved in "industrial reconstruction."

The lack of land is allegedly a considerable hindrance. For this reason the state government in Düsseldorf has, over the past five years, paid out DM500 million for 400 hectares of land for industrial development.

The state is also much favoured as a guarantor. The enormous costs of setting up a company should be covered by, at least forty per cent by state funds.

The chambers are not particularly keen to hear about new subsidies. But they must have found those who are willing to listen in the government offices in Düsseldorf. The SPD government has pumped an additional DM5 billion into the Ruhr since 1979, with good will and off their own initiative.

Industry and population have accepted this gladly. What affect it has, an observer would find hard to discover.

One thing is clear — Düsseldorf is not likely to formulate again a programme of action for the Ruhr.

Leonhard Spielhofer  
(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn, 26 January 1985)

off no 150



## ■ MOTORING

## The proposition: that older drivers are worse at the wheel

Are older motorists a greater danger to other road-users than younger men and women at the wheel? Or does experience offset what may be slower reactions or other physical shortcomings? And when are you old? By the turn of the century one motorist in four will be an "old-timer."

"I never wear a hat while driving," says Hamburg pensioner Wilhelm Klaas. "I don't want to be immediately classified as an old fogey at the wheel."

Young people are to blame for more accidents than old folk, he feels, but when an older person causes an accident someone invariably says: "Isn't it time he (or she) called it a day and gave up driving?"

Herr Klaas is very sensitive about his driving licence, and not without reason. Traffic experts are increasingly feeling that older road-users could prove a growing problem.

It is one that was raised at the 23rd traffic courts conference in Goslar, where one expert suggested that the police, the public prosecutor or the court ought always to inform the authorities when an older person fell foul of the law in connection with a traffic offence.

The authorities ought then to check whether the offender was still physically and mentally fit to hold a licence to drive a car, motorcycle, moped or whatever.

The main reason why this proposition has yet to be put into practice mainly because old age is a difficult concept to legally define.

The medical profession is no help. Some doctors say you're old at 60, others from 65, while Professor Herbert Lewrenz, of Munich, says a specific age is unrealistic.

"You can age over a period of up to 50 years. Some show signs of age in their mid-40s, others not until their mid-90s."

The law as it stands doesn't stipulate an age. The highway code merely refers in general terms to fitness to drive and has called, since the last revision, for consideration for the elderly.

Case law tends to follow Professor Lewrenz's line of argument, ruling that age alone need not mean unfitness to drive.

Taxi drivers in Munich tell the tale of a driver well over 80 who still regularly passes with flying colours the extra tests taxi drivers have to take.

So is the road-user's age (drivers, not pedestrians, of course) irrelevant? Doesn't age really matter?

Or is it merely a subject for jokes like the ones about women drivers? Have you heard the one about the old man who heard a radio warning about a motorist driving on the wrong side of the autobahn and said to his wife: "Only one? There were hundreds of 'em a few minutes ago?"

Yet statistics do indicate that older drivers are more accident-prone than the average. Klaus Lang of the Motor Insurers' Association says motorists over 60 cause 4.5 per cent of accidents, as against an average 3.8 per cent.

But these percentages are based on the three million motorists aged over 60 and not on the mileage they log. The less you drive, the fewer accidents you cause — as a rule.

The findings of a survey commissioned by Volkswagen suggest that two older motorists in three still put in the average 15,000km a year.

Other figures refer to only 18 per cent of motorists aged 60 to 65, 11 per cent aged 65 to 70 and seven per cent over 70 "putting in regular driving."

Statistics need to be compiled on another basis. The Americans, for instance, base theirs on 100,000 miles logged and have found that women drivers over 75 in particular tend to be increasingly accident-prone.

Figures may vary and statisticians disagree, yet no-one is willing to call it a day. The reason is that by the turn of the century one driver in four in the Federal Republic of Germany will be an "old-timer."

So the experts are keen to shed light on the details of problems and on what the specialists are pleased to call risk factors.

"People with cardiac pacemakers are an above-average risk to the general public," says Professor Lewrenz. So are people who have to spend regular sessions attached to an artificial kidney or who take pep pills or sedatives. But he doesn't go into further detail.

Ophthalmologists are agreed that more elderly people ought to be banned from driving at dusk or in the dark. Their statistics show 11 per cent of people in their 50s, 27 per cent of people in their 60s and 34 per cent of over-70s to have difficulty in seeing clearly at night.

This seems to be the point on which the most reliable statistics are available. A Volkswagen survey states that 58 per cent of motorists over 50 are mistakenly convinced their sight is still OK. Similar findings were mentioned in Goslar, where regular sight tests for elderly drivers (aged over 60) were proposed.

This idea prevailed even though others claimed that older drivers were well able to rely on experience and defensive motoring to offset their physical shortcomings.

Experts say there are also typical mistakes old people make, especially when changing lane, turning corners or respecting right of way.

They attribute these mistakes to muscle weakness, older people being less able to turn round — and proverbially stubborn.

"In my view," says lawyer and traffic offence specialist Olaf Kiesewetter, "that isn't true. Motorists young and old make the same mistakes."

He is strictly opposed to only older motorists being required to take compulsory aptitude or fitness tests or to courts being required to refer cases to the administrative authorities.

"That," he says, "is merely going to make older people feel yet more unsure of themselves."

He says older people start to tremble as soon as the police ask how old they are, knowing as they do that driving licences can be confiscated even for minor offences if they then have to prove themselves fit to drive.

"I know from experience of, say, drinking offences how afraid of tests



Can he still see?

(Photo: Oltmann)

they are," he says. "They are as stiff as ramrods as they fill in questionnaires, whereas younger people sit there relaxed and entirely at ease."

"When there is something they don't understand they don't ask for help, making fools of themselves. So many of them fall for no real reason."

Herr Kiesewetter says the importance of holding a driving licence ought not to be underestimated. "In retirement the only prestige a pensioner often has is that he can offer to take the wife out for a spin."

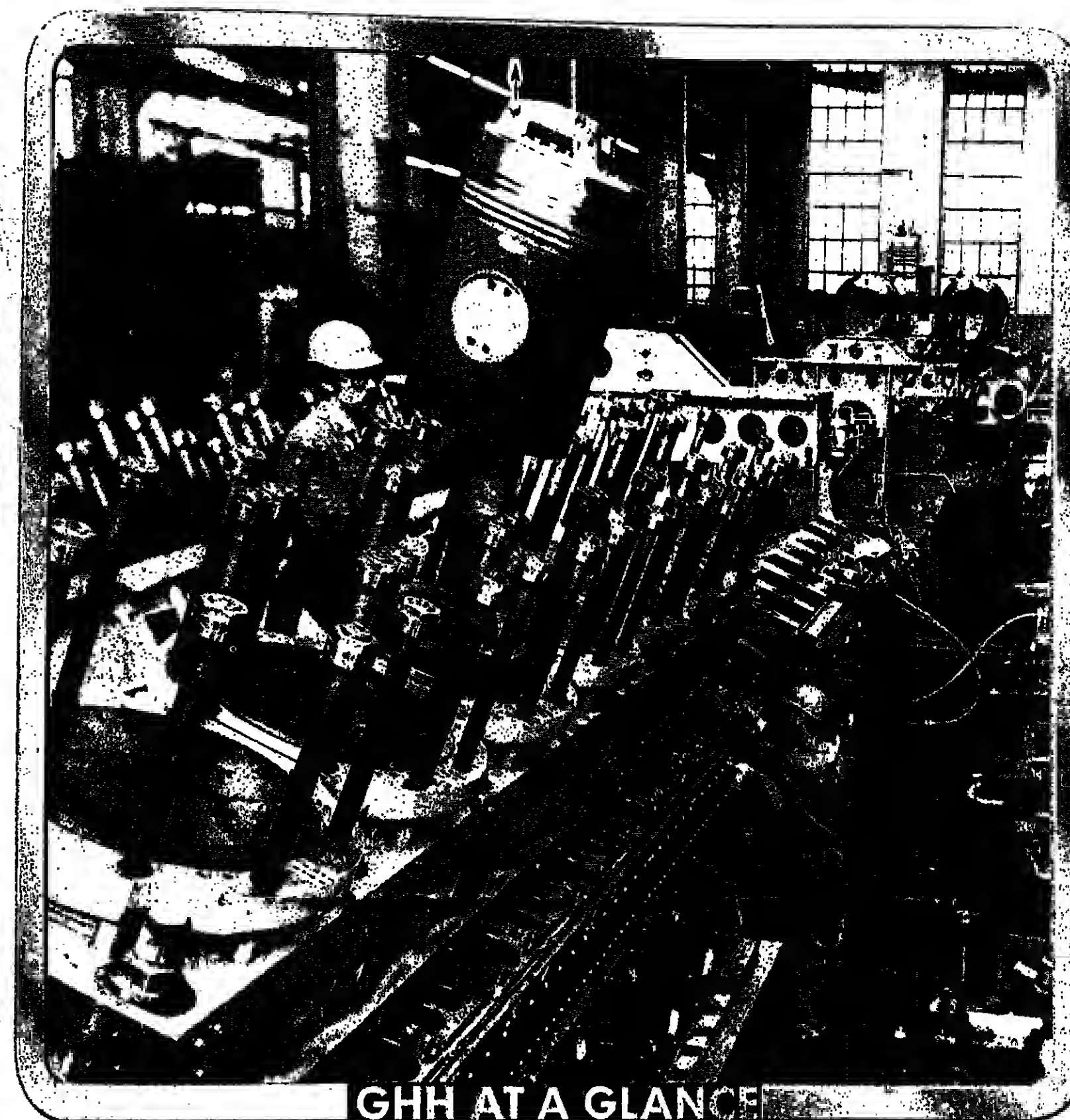
An intimidation isn't the right approach. People must be told where to stand so as to ease their fears. Accidents could be reduced in number merely by making older drivers feel less tense at the wheel.

He feels the proposed referral to the administrative authorities is utter nonsense: "That is simply handing the baton from someone who is competent to someone who isn't and who goes straight by the rule book."

Kiesewetter says motoring magazines could do useful work in keeping older drivers in touch with the latest developments in a humane manner by publishing more articles on subjects such as new road signs.

There might indeed be instances in which an elderly person needed to be told it would be better to surrender his or her driving licence, but it must be voluntary and the need must be explained in a friendly manner.

H. H. Holzer  
(Die Welt, Bonn, 28 January 1984)



GHH AT A GLANCE

## Diesel stands for efficiency

The diesel engine still is the internal combustion with the highest efficiency.

As a matter of fact, more than 95 % of all ships are propelled by high-efficiency diesel engines nowadays, and diesel engines are widely found in electricity generation systems as well. Furthermore, they are used in heat-and-power cogeneration plants and as heat pump drivers, where their utilization rate comes up to as much as 180 %.

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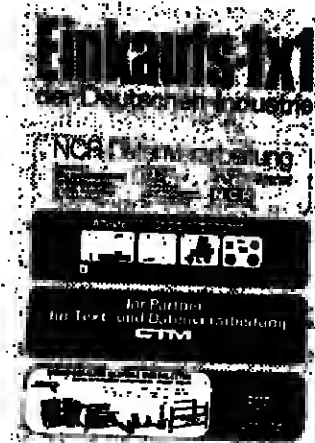
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## ■ MUSIC

## Schumann letters discovery brings mixed feelings

Important documents relating to German art and artists have lately surfaced in Cracow, Poland. The latest find is composer Robert Schumann's correspondence, a collection of 4,700 letters thought lost for decades. But not all Schumann scholars are overjoyed, as this article by Wolfram Goertz for the *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*, Cologne, explains.

What musicologists have suspected for 30 years has come true. The mystery of Schumann's *Correspondenz*, a set of 25 files in which the composer kept nearly all the letters he received, has been solved.

There can no longer be the slightest doubt that most of his correspondence, about 4,700 letters, missing since the Second World War, has been found at Cracow University library.

Only last June the specialist quarterly *Die Musikforschung* surmised that the collection was lost for ever. So did a recent book on the composer published by Schott, *Robert Schumann — ein romantisches Erbe in neuer Forschung*.

This assumption has been disproved mainly by a letter penned by Jan Staszewski, head of the Polish Composers' and Musicologists' Association.

"The correspondence between Robert and Clara Schumann," he writes, "is in the 25 volumes (Letters 1-4,700) of

the Robert Schumann *Correspondenz* currently at Cracow University library."

The *Correspondenz* is of outstanding importance for any kind of research on the composer. When Schumann writes to Clara that he has just received a letter from Liszt, the critical apparatus must at least summarise the letter's contents to explain the context.

Schumann's correspondents included Chopin, Liszt, Ludwig Börne and Ignaz Moscheles.

So the *Correspondenz* is not just a bibliophile rarity; it is one of the most valuable manuscript collections in music history.

The tale of how it found its way to Cracow is an adventurous one. It has been known for several years that much of the stock of the Prussian State Library in Berlin was evacuated from Unter den Linden to a Benedictine abbey in Grüssau, Lower Silesia, shortly before the end of the war.

In 1946 these 505 crates, along with treasures from Breslau University library, were taken to Cracow by a convoy of Polish trucks.

This move was probably intended as reparation and compensation for what the Poles had suffered under Nazi occupation.

British musicologists have been particularly persistent in researching in Cracow since the war, and they have been

largely responsible for unearthing material thought lost. Nigel Lewis, for instance, tells a fascinating tale in his book *Paperchase — Mozart, Beethoven, Bach: the Search for their lost Music*.

The Polish authorities in contrast have taken care not to divulge information about the shipment's whereabouts. Until a few years ago they said nothing, and even now they are reluctant to say anything. Who is the documents' rightful owner? That is hard to say. Poland and both German states lay claim to the crates stored at Grüssau.

The material is indispensable for research into other composers too. It consists of 20,000 music manuscripts, including many by Mozart, and work by philosophers Hegel and Schelling and the poet Hölderlin.

Even 40 years after the war's end there seems to be little prospect of governments reaching agreement on who owns what.

Yet if archive stock everywhere had to be catalogued and catalogues published, libraries everywhere might well feel uneasy about much of their most valuable material.

Rumours have long been rife among musicologists that a manuscript catalogue of the music department of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation library in Berlin is not freely available because some manuscripts do not belong to it by right.

Is it true that some scores in Berlin were stolen by the Nazis in occupied France? If it is, then their ownership would be contested in much the same way as that of the manuscripts in Poland is.

West German musicologists have at least been allowed to work in Cracow in recent years.

Some Schumann specialists will not be overjoyed, however. Göttingen musicologist Wolfgang Boetticher, in charge of the new collected edition of Schumann's letters and writings, is probably a case in point.

He has access to Schumann manuscripts in the GDR, where he is on good terms with fellow-experts, but is unlikely ever to be allowed into Poland.

Boetticher worked alongside Herbert Gerbig in wartime Paris as a member of Alfred Rosenberg's staff.

Billig, in his *Alfred Rosenberg: das ideologische, politische und administrative Profil*, published in Paris in 1963, says Boetticher was partly responsible for the confiscation of the musical instrument collections of harpsichord player Wanda Landowska, a Polish Jewess, pianist Vladimir Horowitz and cellist Gregor Piatigorsky.

It should be fairly obvious that someone who, like Boetticher, contributed to an anti-Semitic *Encyclopaedia of Jews in Music*, published in 1940, and was



Have they been snooped? ... Clara and Robert Schumann. (Photo: Hans)

made a Waffen-SS officer in 1943, not expect much help from the Poles.

That could be why Boetticher kept quiet about surmises that the *Correspondenz* could be in Cracow. He said, as he has done more than once in recent years, that it has been lost.

Younger Schumann scholars seem to have settled for a subtler and more impartial view of the composer.

The two Schumann volumes in the Munich *Musik-Konzepte* series deal with special aspects of the composer's work at a very high level, without ideological motivation and, above all, without what Boetticher calls respect for Schumann's genius.

The new unannotated edition of the correspondence between Robert and Clara Schumann edited by Eva Weissweiler must also be mentioned in this context.

The first of what is planned as three volumes has just appeared and has already been praised for its thoroughness and scholarship. The publishers Stroemfeld and Roter Stern of Frankfurt and Basel.

The new edition is more than welcome, especially as there is still a serious shortage of sensible editions of Schumann's letters.

It will comprise a little over 500 letters the composer and his wife wrote each other while courting and as husband and wife. Boetticher, in his *Robert Schumann in seinen Schriften und Briefen*, published in Berlin in 1942, quoted from only 370.

Critics claim Boetticher's Schumann editions are in parts so fragmentary and faulty that the composer seems at best to be a covert anti-Semite.

Eva Weissweiler is an expert who has access to the material in Cracow. She refers in a footnote to its existence.

Her edition delves into strictly private and personal matters concerning Robert and Clara, and critics have condemned this as disrespectful snooping in their private lives.

But Schumann research in particular must no longer lay itself open to accusations of being guided by subjective considerations in deciding what to publish.

Wolfram Goertz  
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 24 January 1985)

## ■ THE ARTS

## Disabled actor tells about his role in a theatre controversy

Artistic circles are sharply divided over a play in which a severely disabled actor plays the part of a wheelchair-bound child. The play is George Tabori's version of Euripides' *Medea*, called simply *M. Medea*. Rüdiger Radtke played the part of the child of Medea in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* that Radtke brought to the performance "not only his ability to act but he was also part of the team's reality." Rolf Mol, in *az*, asked: "Would he have done this? Should a person who is disabled act and confront the audience with the wheelchair?" He decided that he should. Gerhard Wolmer, in the *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, felt that the play had not made any effect. The young actor,

he wrote, had been the victim of a disgraceful publicity stunt. Helmut Schödel took the same view in *Die Zeit*. Radtke's disability was like a "metaphor for misuse, vulgarity and the over-refined." Arnulf Eichholz in the *Münchener Merkur* regarded the murder of the disabled child as a "stifling bravura solo, a wheelchair drama, something between a Greek puppet show and a holocaust of higher significance." Eva-Elisabeth Fischer wrote in the *Rheinischer Merkur* of "a bewilderment of scenes full of tenderness and love, thanks to Peter Radtke's authentic performance of the disabled child, a far cry from cheap sensationalism." In this article for *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, Peter Radtke himself says what he thinks.

When George Tabori asked me if I would play the disabled child in his version of *Medea* I asked him to give me time to think about it. Disabled people should not allow themselves to be used as vehicles for abstract fantasies. So what was Tabori trying to do?

He was depicting a devoted mother, who is twice killed by faithless husbands, by the murder of her own son. The subsequent falsification of history.

This is not the place to write about rights and wrongs. Certainly Tabori set himself something higher when he made reference to Karl Kerényi in his new interpretation, rather than the less controversial Ranko-Braves.

It was a fact to me that the son in the play drama was disabled. Tabori has

used the disablement theme in earlier plays. He himself has said that this condition had various meanings. In this special case the explosive power of his interpretation was probably not understood.

From the many years of my own experience of disablement I know what a tragedy it can be in a family to have a disabled child. In the main it is the father who cannot come to terms with the situation, who rejects the child, who abandons the marriage.

For me the disabled person was not an object of display, but it offered me the enormous opportunity to use the theatre to sharpen people's sensibilities.

As in all Tabori productions there was intensive rehearsal. Endlessly the question arose: How far can one go?

The expectations of all who took part were high. Is theatre to become what it once was, an experience, a place where catharsis took place, emotional purification. Or should the theatre shut out this challenge? The premiere was revealing. The embarrassed silence after one hundred minutes indicated bewilderment had been aroused by our presentation of a reality. Then came the opinions of the critics.

The first assessment that was seen appeared in this newspaper. The critic explained what we had tried to do, to present reality in art and in this way to give an enhanced appreciation of reality.

The theatre is not "the beautiful, holy world," there for a few aesthetes who buy tickets at cut-throat prices and who will have nothing to do with public subsidies for drama.

The theatre is the place where one meets oneself, just as much so for a member of the audience as for an actor.

Then came the other critics and suddenly we found ourselves confronted by all the questions that Tabori had put to us in our first conversations.

"Do you know what you are doing when you put a cripple on the stage? You will never be forgiven."

There were some scathing criticisms of the piece, mainly concentrating on the sense of unease the critics felt at the presentation of this radical realism.

This raised a few points. The theatre has become a forum for argument, extending far beyond pure artistic expression. The weapons used in the fencing come from aesthetics, the fight itself involves what place is society prepared to concede to the disabled person.

The question asked today is: Should a crippled person play the role of a crippled person on the stage?

Misunderstanding is inherent in the question itself. It is not a matter of a "crippled person" playing "a crippled person", but a disabled "actor" playing a disabled "child".

It goes without saying that disablement is not like a costume that can be hung up in the cloakroom, but it is a quality that impresses yet it does not determine anything.

No one had the idea to forbid women from playing the parts of women on the stage. Nevertheless it is not too far off when a man will have to play the part of Iphigenia.

In the minstrel shows at the turn of



Peter Radtke (in front) as the child and Arnulf Schmecher as the father in *M. Medea*. (Photo: Oda Sternberg)

the century it was an unwritten law that white people played the parts of blacks.

It would be unthinkable today to forbid Sidney Poitier or Grace Bumbry from performing on the stage, just because they are black. Is Ernst Deutsch a bad Nathan just because he is a Jew?

Perhaps people laughed at the production and read in the papers that a disabled person "was the victim of a shameful publicity stunt, as if only disabled people could play disabled people. (Can only the sons of kings play Hamlet, only hunchbacks Richard III or an infanticide Oedipus.) The theatre has great licence, but it cannot do this."

Obviously not only disabled actors should play roles in which a disablement is a component. The opposing question can then be asked: Why should only the non-disabled be fit for such roles? Must one unconditionally take a thin man when a fat man is needed, a young many when an old man is called for?

The apostles of aesthetics should look at their own aesthetic rules and regulations, namely the question of artistic quality. I myself regard it as misguided to put a disabled person on the stage solely because he or she is disabled. The question should be dramatic quality when this is done, rather than considerations that are foreign to art.

Many representatives of the old school will bring this aesthetic into consideration — that the theatre should only present the beautiful in tragedy, that which is elevated.

This is an understanding of theatre that cannot be disputed — except perhaps by the most powerful plays Shakespeare wrote, or Hauptmann, or in modern times Beckett and Kroeitz. Well-intentioned critics — and there are some — stood to Tabori's defence, but were of the view that the experiment could not be repeated.

The opposite is the case. The battle for equal opportunity, the integration of the disabled into the performing arts, has only just begun.

The attempt would be empty of meaning, an exotic flower that blossomed in the forest of the German theatre, if it were not continued in this, or some other way.

Peter Radtke  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 12 January 1985)

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## ■ ANNIVERSARIES

## Berlin sanctuary for hounded Huguenots

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

When the Huguenots were driven out of Catholic France 300 years ago and there was nowhere for them to go, Berlin came to their rescue.

The Great Elector, Frederick William, opened the gates of the city, which was then an impoverished and thinly populated royal capital of Brandenburg.

The Huguenots snapped up the chance gratefully — after all, on one night alone in 1572, St Bartholomew's Night, 24 August, 20,000 of them had been murdered. Just across the water, the powerful and protestant Britain did nothing to help.

A certain amount of religious tolerance was introduced in France in 1598 by King Henri IV, but on 18 October 1685, this was ended by the Sun King, Louis XIV, in the Revocation Act of Fontainebleau.

The result was renewed persecution. Thousands were thrown into prison, hundreds of churches burnt, schools closed and teachers and ministers arrested.

Those who could get away did. But where to? Just 11 days after the Fontainebleau Act, the Great Elector passed the Potsdam Edict, which opened Brandenburg to the refugees. And they came.

Soon afterwards, Britain, Holland and Switzerland began allowing refugees in as well.

The Huguenots in Berlin quickly became involved in industry, the trades, the arts and in the army.

They got citizenship rights immediately. They were allowed 10 tax-free years, given advances to start up factories in cases where they had previously owned factories.

Landowners and farmers were allocated land and scholars and ministers were granted salaries.

### Mockery

The Great Elector greeted each group personally and let them describe their sufferings. Contemporaries recall seeing tears in his eyes.

Ties between Brandenburg and France were broken. The French envoy, Marquis de Rebecq, protested and tried to persuade the Elector that the refugees were troublemakers and criminals.

However, when the famous French Marshal de Schomberg sought asylum in Berlin, Frederick William asked the ambassador with gentle mockery if he had anything more to say.

The refugees settled in a series of settlements such as Magdeburg and Spandau, but the biggest colony was in Berlin. The city then had 11,000 people of whom 4,000 were French refugees.

Adolf Streckfuss wrote in his book covering 500 years of Berlin history

that in those days Berliners were wary of outsiders, whom they regarded as intruding competitors. Despite this, they "supported the French as much as the could, took them happily into their homes and demonstrated working people's fraternal love."

Under the Great Elector, Berlin became the worldly, tolerant cosmopolitan city. The tradition is being maintained today by West Berlin.

The city had earlier established some reputation as a haven for refugees. In 1671, another edict allowed in 50 Jewish families which had been harried out of Vienna and Lower Austria by Kaiser Leopold.

They were not confined to ghettos, as was the case in many European cities but were free to settle where they wanted, although there were restrictions on their trades and businesses.

Then came the first of the Huguenots, in 1672. And there was no end to the stream of refugees arriving because of religious persecution somewhere.

Assimilation was smooth and gave Berlin a reputation as a place where Jew and Gentile could live shoulder to shoulder without problem.

G.H. Wilk  
(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 20 January 1985)

Continued from page 5

sub-camps and arms factories employing prisoners were set up near concentration camps, including Auschwitz.

It is therefore blatant self-deception to maintain that no-one could have imagined what was happening behind the electrically-charged barbed wire at Auschwitz.

The "combat group Auschwitz" never ceased trying to inform the rest of the world about the true extent of atrocities.

Of course, the Polish prisoners stood the best chance of smuggling such information out of the camp, since Auschwitz is in Poland.

Polish civilians were often sent to work in the camp area, and although they were not allowed to talk to the prisoners the SS could not prevent information from being passed on.

Any prisoner caught talking to a civilian faced the death penalty.

The Polish civilian workers for their part (or their families) were also threatened, and the SS employed a whole army of informers.

Nonetheless, in 1942 reports of the mass murder in the gas chambers of Auschwitz already reached the town of Krakow, 60 kilometres east of Auschwitz, where a Polish underground organisation had secretly established radio contact with London, the seat of the exile Polish government.

Even members of the SS later confirmed the implications of this broadcast.

On 5 July 1945 SS Oberscharführer, Wilhelm Boger, said in a statement that after the news of the mass deaths in Auschwitz was made known to the world in autumn 1943, there was a sudden reshuffling of top positions both in the camps and in the Gestapo base at Kattowitz.

Camp commandant Höss was replaced, and although his successor Liebenhenschel kept the gas chambers he did try to improve camp conditions.

Reports of the systematic extermination of the Jews were already discussed in the British lower house of parliament in December 1942.

BBC London warned all those "taking part in the planning and execution of the Nazi policy of exterminating the Jews" that they would have to account for their action after the war.

All this was a reaction to the news

## Stiletto-cracking 2,000-year Augsburg celebration

This year, the historic Roman centre of Augsburg, in Bavaria, celebrates its 2,000-year jubilee. The New Year marking the occasion was ushered in by pealing church bells and the raising of 260 flags in all parts of the city.

Augsburg's celebration comes hard on the heels of similar celebrations by Trier and Neuss, which last year were 2,000 years old.

Particular interest in Augsburg's celebrations are being paid by people in Kempten, next door to Augsburg, which is said to be older than Augsburg.

Kemptenites maintain their town must be older because it is further south.

They work on the reasoning that, as the Romans pushed to the north, they must have reached Kempten first.

But in Augsburg, people don't go into arguments about the oldest cities in Germany. And with reason. Historian Wolfgang Zorn says Augsburg does not

smuggled out of the Auschwitz camp by the "combat group Auschwitz".

The most extensive extermination operation began on 16 May 1944: 437,000 Jews were deported to Auschwitz from Hungary within seven weeks.

The "combat group" not only informed the world of this planned atrocity, but called upon the military to bomb both the railway lines leading from Hungary to Auschwitz and the crematoriums in Birkenau so as to at least hinder the move.

It sent out plans of the crematoriums and stressed that a bombing should be carried out straight away, even if a few prisoners were to lose their lives.

The call was heard, but the bombing did not take place.

Why efforts were not made to stop the "Hungary operation", as the SS called it, was not clear at the time.

In fact, a clear answer has not been given to this very day.

However, a fireman who has not quite done his job properly cannot share the same kind of blame as the fire-raiser.

When commemorating the day on which the heart of the Nazi apparatus of extermination was destroyed and Auschwitz liberated was should not avoid the question of the ideology which led to a situation in which many thousand directly or indirectly took part in mass murder.

Simply because they dismissed a human being's right to live on account of racial descent. Furthermore, we should not ignore the fact that even in Auschwitz it was not possible to totally eradicate human feelings, i.e. humanity.

Many of the prisoners there made great sacrifices to try and put an end to Nazi atrocities.

January 27 should remind the world not to underestimate the power of human beings, not to give up even if the face of seemingly invincible odds.

This day is the first of a series commemorating event 40 years ago.

It is a day of joy, not only for the survivors of the Nazi concentration camps, but for all those who do not mourn the "Third Reich".

May 8 too is a day of joy; for it was on this day that the sinister power was defeated whose murderous ideology made Auschwitz possible.

Hermann Langbein  
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 27 January 1985)

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

actually know in what year it was founded.

Irmgard Baur, who is a member of the commission in charge of the city's historical aspects, says that in this case, it is assumed that in 1580, during the campaign against the Celts and the Alpine people who eventually became the Swiss, by Kniser Augustus, Roman soldiers established a settlement at an important strategic point where the Lech and Wertach rivers join.

This was the basis for the later settlement that was to become Augsburg. An Ingolstadt historian, Dr. Max Junkelmann, says the Augsburg celebration is an occasion for recalling the man myth.

Later in the year, he and 10 others will start off from Verona and march towards Augsburg wearing replica legionnaire uniforms.

Their chain mail shirts have been welded together from 30,000 iron nails that had been stolen in Augsburg a few days before.

The party aims to cover 25 kilometres a day. At camp each evening will post sentries and every fourth will be a rest day.

Just like in the old days, each legionnaire will carry, with supplies and weapons, 40 kilograms.

A television team will accompany the march all the way from Rome to Augsburg and compile daily reports.

An exhibition, 'The Romans in Southern Germany', is to document legionnaire life in the city: although there is no certain signifying the founding of the city.

There are of course other indications of the existence of the city, but these are of course and remains of buildings.

There is even a helmet made of pure gold which makes the exhibition valuable not only for archaeologists.

Augsburg's most valuable treasure, however, is the restored Old Town Hall. It was built in the Middle Ages as a replica of one of the halls in the Dogen Palace in Venice.

Master builder Elias Holl in 16th century built it into the Augsburg town hall.

It was totally burnt out in a bomb raid in 1944 and was rebuilt following an initiative which raised money from individuals, business and the city itself.

When it was finished, three powerful gold was used to apply a glazing to the big hall.

This has drawn criticism from architects, who say that the city has been money and the restoration could have been cheaper.

In any case, the jubilee is not going to be cheap. It is costing 40 million marks. However, the city administration points out that much of the expenditure will be of long-term benefit.

It points to the cleaned Rathaus towers and the brand new Rathausplatz with its new paving.

The paving stones were imported specially from Prague. They were made because they convey a distinctive Middle Ages look.

However, women are already complaining that their stiletto heels are breaking off in the cracks.

Karl Pfugmann  
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 12 January 1985)

## TERRORISM

## Own goal suspected as explosion dismembers man, injures woman

Hannoversche Allgemeine

One person died in the latest bomb attack by the Red Army Faction. The evidence points to the probability that it was an own goal: Johannes Thumme, who has several convictions in his time, was dismembered in the explosion which was at a computer centre at the University of Stuttgart.

His companion, Claudia Wünners, was seriously injured. It was the latest in a renewed series of RAF attacks and the first to take casualties.

On 18 December the RAF made an attempt to blow up the Nato officers' training school in Oberammergau.

A silver-grey Audi 80 was driven up to the school by a man in an American uniform.

According to public prosecutor Kurt Rebmann the man parked the car in the parking lot in front of the school and got out.

Suspicious were raised both by the way the car was parked and because it was a number plate of an American vehicle that had been stolen in Augsburg a few days before.

An special bomb squad found 28 kilograms of explosives and three large camping stoves that had been connected to a detonator and timing mechanism on the back of the car.

Everything pointed to the RAF. It was similar in most details to the attack on the American airbase in the Palatinate on 31 August 1981.

Just last year the police discovered in the RAF terrorists' flat in Frankfurt where the members of the Oberammergau school were found.

The Americans were alerted and a warning paid off, possibly saving many lives. In an RAF communiqué it was said that the aim was to attack the school directly.

This was the most spectacular terrorist attack in the period before Christmas. There was then a series of other attacks throughout the country. The public prosecutor's office speaks of about 22 cases a judicial inquiry has been mounted.

The attacks show that the new RAF is an organisation divided into many groups, a network of extremely mobile units.

Explosives were placed at the AEG-Werke in Mülheim on the night of 27/28 December.

An "anti-imperialist front" committee had an arson attack on Siemens in Frankfurt just before Christmas, which caused DM15 million damage.

An RAF message after the attack said: "We selected Siemens because in the field of its activities it is involved in imperialism."

On Christmas Eve there was a bomb attack on the computer centre in Reutlingen. This was done "by the proletarian revolutionaries to hit out at the imperialist programmes of technical control."

And were the words "Revolutionary front" and "Solidarity in the struggle against imperialism."

In the main the RAF attacks, as before, are aimed at American and Nato facilities. One of the RAF communiqués said: "No more war in Nicaragua or a push towards the USA and Nato worldwide and for murder and barbarity."

It is also obvious that the terrorists want to hit West German data and information centres. This is made clear by the attack at the weekend on a data processing firm in Karlsruhe and the IBM branch in West Berlin. They are waging war against the hated western world and its technology.

The left-wing West Berlin daily taz commented that the language, the way of thought of the communiqués were military in style.

The series of attacks were conspicuously timed to coincide with the hunger strike of the RAF members under arrest. This hunger strike was started on 4 December and all 34 RAF prisoners are taking part.

They want to improve their prison conditions. More than anything else they want to be recognised as prisoners-of-war according to the Geneva Convention.

The hunger strikers are modelling their protest on the hunger strikes of Irish prisoners in 1981.

Then the IRA prisoners refused food demanding that they should have the

status of prisoners-of-war. Prisoners died in this strike, but the IRA did not win this prisoner-of-war status, nor did the Palestinian prisoners in Israel.

There has been little public interest in this hunger strike, unlike that of 1981. But then there was no peace movement. Experts of the radical scene point out that their hunger strikes and attacks are directed at causes the peace movement has made its own — action against Nato facilities and action against re-armament.

It could be that the RAF stragglers could offer the peace movement new perspectives, but it is questionable if it would be possible to radicalise adherents of the peace movement.

According to the security authorities the RAF has been able to recruit more followers to fill the gaps caused by the arrest of seven RAF members last summer. Rebmann estimated that the underground organisation was then made up of 15 members.

It is likely that attacks were planned to coincide with the anniversary of the previous suicides at the Stammheim prison.

In summer investigators came upon documents that led to the suspicion that there was a plan to ambush and shoot the presiding judge, Klaus Knoke, in Stammheim in the case against Christian Klar and Brigitte Mohnhaupt.

Werner Birkenmaier  
(Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung, 22 January 1985)

## RAF prisoners end their hunger strike

Brigitte Mohnhaupt has had 80 visits. Visits from lawyers are not included.

In the hunger strike of 1981 the prisoners demanded that they should be imprisoned together in groups of three or four. They now maintain they only discontinued then because the authorities agreed to make concessions.

The authorities say there was no undertaking.

Chief public prosecutor Rebmann did, indeed, refuse to discuss the prisoners' requests under pressure from a hunger strike.

But when the hunger strike did end, talks did take place between Rebmann and officials of the state justice department.

Then three groups of RAF prisoners were formed: in Celle with RAF prisoners Folkerts, Tauber, Dellwo and Vogel, in Lüneburg with Krabbe, Kuby and Möller, and in West Berlin with Guder, Rollnick and Barberich.

The members of these groups can meet daily without restrictions.

In Celle they have their own recreation room with television, a hotplate and a refrigerator.

The current demands go a little bit further — that all RAF prisoners should be held in one place.

The authorities fear that this would create a "command headquarters in prison".

All RAF prisoners have been offered the normal facilities available to prisoners generally. This includes going with

other prisoners for exercise in the prison yard, going to church, watching television with other prisoners and working together. With a few exceptions all have rejected these privileges.

Rebmann said in a statement: "They want to be isolated from other prisoners and to achieve their aim of getting together by referring to 'isolation' and 'torture in prison'." The RAF prisoners want to be treated as people cut above the other prisoners.

The terrorists are allowed to have their own radios in their cells, but the radios cannot have VHF receiver accessories which could be converted into a transmitter.

There is no television for this reason also. Television is available only in the general recreation room and under the supervision of prison officials. Most of them have record or cassette players.

Generally they are allowed to have four daily newspapers and two magazines, along with twenty books in their cells.

The papers most in demand are taz, Frankfurter Rundschau, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Konkret a satirical magazine and Spiegel.

Publications from Cuba and Arab countries are also supplied.

Normally prisoners are allowed to have only DM20 a month to spend in the prison shop.

Christian Klar, however, does not have to limit himself in buying cigarettes, coffee and sausages for he is allowed to spend DM300 a month.

Kurt Rebmann has made it quite clear that the RAF prisoners cannot claim that they are on hunger strike on humanitarian grounds. This strike is aimed at mobilising sympathisers and strengthening the revolutionary struggle.

Horst Zimmermann  
(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 26 January 1985)